



Electronic Newsletter

Summer is Upon Us

July 2006

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Message from the Superintendent



Summer is very much what Fire Island National Seashore is about. This is a time of carefree vacationing and quiet leisure. It is, no doubt, fun times for all, and Fire Island is the perfect place for it.

However, maintaining a safe summer experience can sometimes get lost among the fun. The National Park Service has a program, known as NPSafe, which is mandated by our Director to ensure that our employees work under the safest circumstances possible

Greetings!

We have gracefully stepped into another summer. Each spring season at the Seashore brings our park into *opening mode*, and as always, the staff steps up to the plate to get the job done. Our facilities are open for business. For those who come to Sailors Haven, you will find that the marina has been rebuilt. We replaced deteriorating docks and bulkheads with composite plastic lumber and steel facings. In addition, we have finally removed the deteriorated "Motel" building.

Be sure to visit our [FIIS webpage](#) to find information about all of the park visitor facilities and schedules for this 2006 season.

Have a fun, safe and happy July 4th

• Scoping for Our New Plan

Mark your calendars!

Following is a reprint of our latest News Release to inform everyone about our summer open house scoping meeting dates, which is, for most of you, the official kick-off of the General Management planning process.



Fire Island National Seashore News Release

Release date: Immediate

Contact(s): Michael Reynolds, Robin Lepore

Phone number: (631) 687-4750, (617) 223-5058

Date: June 27, 2006

within some often hazardous environments. But, not only do we want to take care of "our own", it is our mission to take care of you, our visitors. Safety awareness is that mission.

There are many websites that can be accessed to assist people in safety awareness, starting with the [Red Cross' Summer Safety Tips](#). Their tips include water, boating, sun, hiking and camping safety. And please, don't forget summer safety for your pets. The [American Kennel Club's web page](#) is an excellent resource for protecting your dogs (cats, and other pets). Take the time to visit these sites, refresh your memory, learn something new. Everyone will be thankful when summer-related tragedies can be averted.

Have fun! Stay safe!



NPS seeks Public Input on Fire Island National Seashore

This summer, the National Park Service will begin work on a new general management plan and environmental impact statement for Fire Island National Seashore. Sharing information about the planning process and seeking public input are essential first steps in this effort. The National Park Service invites the public to come learn more about the planning process and share their ideas and opinions about the future management and programs of Fire Island National Seashore at a series of open houses scheduled this summer on Fire Island.

Open House dates and locations are as follows (if outdoors, look for a tent near the areas described):

Saturday, July 29, 2006

Ocean Beach Open House – 10AM to 1PM (Community House)

Davis Park Open House – 3PM to 6PM (Near Marina Area)

Friday, August 11, 2006

Watch Hill Open House – 10 AM to 1PM (Near Visitor Center)

Sailors Haven Open House – 3 PM to 6 PM (Near Visitor Center)

Saturday, August 12, 2006 AMENDED SCHEDULE

Cherry Grove Open House – 12 noon to 3 PM (Firehouse)

Fire Island Pines Open House – 4:30 PM to 7:30PM (Near Ferry/Marina)

Sunday, August 13, 2006

Saltaire Open House – 10 AM to 1PM (Firehouse/Town Hall)

Fire Island Light Open House – 3 PM to 6 PM

Additional public meetings will take place on the mainland this fall to seek further public input. The schedule for those meetings will be announced at a later date but are planned for September and October.

A new management plan is needed for Fire Island National Seashore to address a variety of new management issues that have emerged since the current plan was completed in 1977 and that are

therefore not adequately addressed. We are conducting these public scoping meetings this summer and fall to create a solid foundation upon which to build the new general management plan.

Superintendent Mike Reynolds noted "This planning process offers an excellent opportunity to examine a number of new as well as long-standing issues with fresh eyes. We look forward to working closely with the wide variety of publics who have time and time again demonstrated their interest in and their passion for this special place. We want this to be an open and inclusive process and hope to see lots of folks at our open houses."

For more information, visit the park's website at nps.gov/fiis or contact Michael Reynolds, Superintendent, Fire Island National Seashore, 120 Laurel Street, Patchogue, NY 11772. The project's electronic mail address is fire_island_gmp@nps.gov. There is also a new planning electronic newsletter you can subscribe to at the park's website.

[Please read more at Fire Island National Seashore's official GMP website](#)

• Soundings Errata.....



An article in our Summer 2006 issue of Soundings, [Where Will Fire Island Go From Here](#), mentions some dates for public meetings. However, given that some things inevitably change, of course *after* going to print, please be informed (and

inform others, if possible) of these changes.

As indicated in the previous article, Public Scoping for the GMP will be held at the Ocean Beach Community House from 10:00 a.m. till 1:00 pm on July 29, 2006. That same day, from 2:00 till 6:00 p.m., we will have a second meeting in Davis Park, at the Town of Brookhaven's open parkland adjacent to the marina. Please adjust your calendars and schedules accordingly if you are planning to attend one or both meetings.

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::Fire Island National Seashore
<http://www.nps.gov/fiis/>